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## **The Spirit of Volunteerism - The Latest eJournalUSA**

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### **ISSUE-IN-FOCUS: JANUARY 4, 2012**

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Who gives blood in the United States? Who leads Boy Scout troops? Who sings carols in hospitals during the holidays? Who puts out fires and rescues people in medical emergencies? They are volunteers, so woven into the fabric of U.S. life that they often go unnoticed. This issue of *eJournalUSA* is dedicated to the unheralded citizens who collectively contribute some \$173 billion annually through their unpaid labor. They are part of a tradition of volunteerism that has deep roots in U.S. society.

Click [here](#) to download. [PDF Format; 3.35MB]

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*by Susan J. Ellis and Katherine H. Campbell*

American volunteering began when North America was a wilderness and continues today.

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*by Rick J. Markley*

Volunteer firefighting began in the American colonies and the tradition remains strong now.

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*by Jeanne Holden*

Volunteer "grandfathers" mentor fatherless boys.

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The International Rescue Committee helps refugees build new lives in a new land.

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